IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kanji HATA et al.

Serial No. NEW : Attn: Application Branch

Filed March 24, 2000 : Attorney Docket No. 2000-0351

COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS
AND METHOD, AND COMPONENT MOUNTING EQUIPMENT

(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of Serial No. 09/010,490, Filed January 21, 1998)

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PATENT OFFICE FEE TRANSMITTAL FORM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Attached hereto is a check in the amount of \$690.00 to cover Patent Office fees relating to filing the following attached papers:

Rule 53(b) application \$690.00

A duplicate copy of this paper is being submitted for use in the Accounting Division, Office of Finance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0975, with the EXCEPTION of deficiencies in fees for multiple dependent claims in new applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Kanji HATA et al.

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Registration No. 40,268

Attorney for Applicants

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March 24, 2000

[Check No. 3

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

Line 6, delete "By arranging the" insert -- The -- before "component"; -- are arranged -- after "apparatuses".

Line 14, insert --so as-- after "installed".